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## TRAPPING AND HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR 1930-31 APPROVED FOR ALASKA

New regulations concerning game and land furbearing animals, game and nongame birds, and nests and eggs of birds in Alaska have been adopted by Secretary of Agriculture Hyde. The regulations, which were recommended by the Alaska Game Commission and approved by the Bureau of Biological Survey, become effective on July 1, 1930, and have just been published as Circular No. 7-C, of the Alaska Game Commission.

Important among the changes in the regulations is one providing that for residents of Alaska there shall be no close season on large brown and grizzly bears except on certain areas along the Gulf of Alaska and on the Alaska Peninsula. Residents, however, may kill bears at any time when these animals are about to attack or molest persons or property. For nonresidents of the Territory the open season on these bears in the restricted area will be from September 1 to June 20. The restriction on the taking of bears within the Kodiak-Afognak group of islands has been removed, and under the new regulations bears may be killed there as elsewhere in the Territory.

Under the new regulations, caribou may be taken by residents and natives for food at any time north of the Yukon River, instead of north of the Arctic Circle as heretofore. South of the Yukon River the season will be from August 20 to December 31. The area between longitudes 138 degrees and 141 degrees

has been added to the area closed to deer hunting. The season on buck deer in southeastern Alaska east of longitude 138 degrees is slightly shortened from the period September 1 to November 30 to the period August 20 to November 15. The open season on mountain goats will be extended 12 days—August 20 to December 31 instead of September 1 to December 31. In conformity with recent amendments to the Federal migratory bird treaty act regulations, the daily bag limits on wild ducks in Alaska have been reduced from 25 to 15; on geese from 8 to 4; and the possession limit of 75 waterfowl was reduced to 50, which, however, may not include more than 30 ducks and 8 geese.

Another amendment, which will facilitate the enforcement of the Alaska regulations, provides for the strict supervision of trapping during the close season on protected fur animals, by requiring permits to trap wolves, coyotes, and other predatory animals. The revised regulations provide also for the trapping of martens, as these animals have recovered sufficiently from their formerly depleted numbers to warrant opening the season (one month), which has been closed since 1923-24. The Department calls special attention to the fact that the skins of martens taken during the open season must be tagged with a metal seal issued by the Alaska Game Commission. An amendment to the regulations requires that marten skins imported into the Territory must now be tagged in like manner within 30 days after their importation, instead of 90 days as heretofore. Changes in local seasons on mink, land otter, and weasel also have been made, and the use of set guns of any kind for taking game or fur-bearing animals is prohibited.

Copies of Circular No. 7-C, of the Alaska Game Commission, which, in addition to presenting the new regulations, contains extracts of the principal provisions of the Alaska game law and other Federal and Territorial laws relating to game and birds in Alaska, may be obtained on request addressed to the Alaska Game Commission, Juneau, Alaska, or to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.